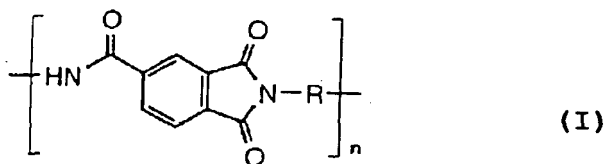


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

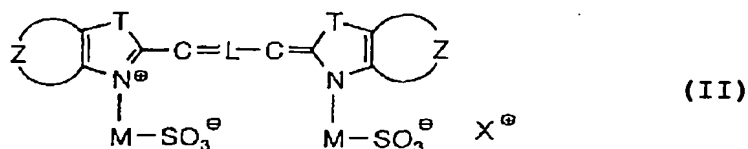
1. A method for forming a glossy image comprising:  
using (A) a heat transfer sheet comprising a substrate,  
a light-heat conversion layer and an image forming layer in  
5 this order, wherein the light-heat conversion layer comprises  
a polyamide-imide resin, and the image forming layer comprises  
at least one of tabular inorganic compound particles and metal  
particles and a thixotropic agent, (B) a heat transfer sheet  
comprising a substrate, a light-heat conversion layer and an  
10 image forming layer in this order, wherein the light-heat  
conversion layer comprises a polyamide-imide resin, and the  
image forming layer comprises a transparent colorant, and (C)  
an image receiving sheet comprising an image receiving layer;  
and  
15 imagewise transferring the image forming layer of each  
of the heat transfer sheet (A) and the heat transfer sheet (B)  
to the image receiving layer by laser thermal transfer.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
20 polyamide-imide resin is represented by the following formula  
(I):



wherein R represents a divalent linking group; and n represents an integer of 10 to 100.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
5 light-heat conversion layer of each of the heat transfer sheets (A) and (B) comprises, as a light-heat converting substance, a dye represented by the following formula (II):



wherein Z represents an atomic group necessary to form a benzene ring, a naphthalene ring or a heterocyclic aromatic ring; T represents -O-, -S-, -Se-, -N(R<sup>1</sup>)-, -C(R<sup>2</sup>)(R<sup>3</sup>)- or -C(R<sup>4</sup>)=C(R<sup>5</sup>)-;  
15 R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and R<sup>3</sup> each independently represent an alkyl group, an alkenyl group or an aryl group; R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, a carboxyl group,  
20 an acyl group, an acylamino group, a carbamoyl group, a sulfamoyl group or a sulfonamido group; L represents a trivalent linking group comprising 5 or 7 conjugated methine groups; M represents a divalent linking group; and X<sup>+</sup> represents a cation.

25 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the

light-heat conversion layer of each of the heat transfer sheets (A) and (B) has a light absorbance of 70 to 95% when irradiated with laser light.

5            5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the laser light is emitted from a plurality of arrayed semiconductor lasers each having an output power of 0.5 W or higher.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the image  
10 receiving sheet comprises a cushioning layer.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein a surface roughness of the image receiving layer is such that a smoother value is 5 mmHg or smaller and a center-line average roughness  
15 Ra of 0.04 to 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the metal particles are particles of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of aluminum, gold, silver, copper, and  
20 zinc.

9. The method according to claim 1, wherein the tabular inorganic compound is a pearl pigment.

25            10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the pearl

pigment is mica powder.

11. The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
thixotropic agent comprises at least one of a fatty acid amide  
5 and polyethylene oxide.